



Idaho Supreme Court

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NEWS RELEASE

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Third District Trial Court Administrator Dan Kessler Receives Top Idaho Judicial Award

(Boise) – Dan Kessler, Idaho’s Third Judicial District trial court administrator, has received the Idaho Judiciary’s Kramer Award, an annual award in recognition of excellence in judicial administration. Kessler is the longest serving of Idaho’s current trial court administrators, having held his position since 1989.

The Kramer Award is presented to a nominee who best exemplifies excellence in judicial administration, by character and action. The award is named for former Blaine County District Judge Douglas Kramer who was widely recognized during his years on the bench for his contributions to the improvement of the administration of the Idaho courts.

Third District Judges Juneal Kerrick, Renae Hoff and James Morfitt, and Administrative District Judge Gregory Culet nominated Kessler for the administrative excellence award. They concur that the honor is well deserved by Kessler. “There is no one in the judicial branch that is more dedicated and hard working than Dan,” said Hoff. The judges noted that his humility, common sense and knowledge of court procedures and practices have contributed to his ability to oversee the significant caseload growth that the Third District has experienced in the past few years. Culet echoed the other judges’ sentiments that under Kessler’s regime, “Judges have been allowed to be judges and focus on the substance of their jobs, with Dan picking up the bulk of administrative matters.”

Kessler has been with the Third District Court for 18 years. In his distinguished 35-year career he served as Third District Court Administrator with the Wisconsin Supreme Court (1984-1989) and held several positions with the Colorado Judicial Department (1972-1984). Prior to his judicial career he served in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1972. Kessler graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education from Indiana State University in 1969. He is a member of the National Association for Court Management and an active participant in his community.

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